

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 XMB-04 PA-02

PRS-01 USIA-15 L-02 /055 W

----- 125211

R 201300Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5848

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 16976

BEIRUT FOR RCAA

PASS EXIMBANK

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, IN

SUBJ: AIR-INDIA

REF: (A) BOMBAY 2945 (NOTAL) (B) BEIRUT 11889

1. KK UNNI, AIR-INDIA MANAGING DIRECTOR TOLD PRESS REPRESENTATIVES IN BOMBAY SEPTEMBER 17 THAT AI MADE AN OPERATING PROFIT OF RS.45 MILLION (DOLS\$5.6 MILLION) AND A NET PROFIT OF RS.3 MILLION (DOLS 375,000) IN FISCAL YEAR 1973-74 (APRIL-MARCH).IN FISCAL 71-72 AND 72-73 THE AIRLINE SUFFERED NET LOSSES OF RS.17 MILLION (DOLS 2.1 MILLION) AND RS.9.4 MILLION (DOLS1.2 MILLION) RESPECTIVELY HIGH FUEL PRICES WERE A DRAG ON PROFITABILITY DURING THE SECOND HALF FY 73-74. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, UNNI SAID THE AIRLINE MAY LOSE RS.120 MILLION (DOLS 15 MILLION) THIS YEAR AS A RESULT OF A FOUR-MONTH DISRUPTION OF SERVICES BY STRIKING PILOTS.

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2. UNNI ALSO TOLD THE PRESS THAT HE AND AIR-INDIA CHAIRMAN J.R.D.

TATA PLAN TO GO TO THE UNITED STATES IN THE FIRST WEEK IN JANUARY
TO NEGOTIATE FINANCING FOR PURCHASE OF A BOEING 747, THE AIRLINE'S
FIFTH. CONGEN BOMBAY GOT UNNI'S CONFIRMATION THAT HE AND J.R.D.
TATA ARE GOING TO WASHINGTON. UNNI SAID HE AND TATA HAVE AN
APPOINTMENT WITH CHAIRMAN CASEY ON JANUARY 9.MOYNIHAN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
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